

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

OK-99-25
ORIGINAL

From: Mary Riddick
To: "markw@interport.net"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1
Date: Wed, Jul 14, 1999 4:32 PM
Subject: Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

Chairman Kennard, requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

>>> markw <markw@interport.net> 07/14 1:55 PM >>>
 =To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
 Commissioner Gloria Tristani,
 Commissioner Michael Powell
 Commissioner Susan Ness
 Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
 Federal Communications Commission
 The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554
 cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore,
 Bill Bradley, and George W Bush
 cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

RECEIVED

JUL 22 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MM Docket No. 99-25
 Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the

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The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities.

In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition (mec@tao.ca), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

To support this vision, we urge you to legalize microradio with the following concerns in mind:

1. Microradio licenses should be awarded for non-commercial use only. The current radio spectrum is dominated by commercial media. LPFM licenses should go to non-commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate with their neighbors, not make profit from them.
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3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.
4. The Commission should NOT diminish new low-power stations to

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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia

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Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.
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Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego
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Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
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city=new york
state=ny
zip=10009
=Send to FCC

EX PARTE OF LATE FILED

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ORIGINAL

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To: "eoetm@ibm.net"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1
Date: Wed, Jul 14, 1999 4:32 PM
Subject: Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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>>> <eoetm@ibm.net> 07/14 11:48 AM >>>

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Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
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street=800 Custer Avenue, #2E
city=Evanston
state=IL
zip=60202-2245
=Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL

From: Mary Riddick
To: "noone@valdosta.edu"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1
Date: Wed, Jul 14, 1999 4:43 PM
Subject: Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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>>> noone <noone@valdosta.edu> 07/14 2:59 PM >>>
 =To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
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 Commissioner Michael Powell
 Commissioner Susan Ness
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Additional Comments=
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city=Valdosta
state=GA
zip=31698
=Send to FCC

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ORIGINAL

From: Mary Riddick
To: "carmenw@alaska.net"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1
Date: Wed, Jul 14, 1999 3:53 PM
Subject: Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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>>> Chris and Carmen Bydalek <carmenw@alaska.net> 07/14 5:14 AM >>>

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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
name=Christopher T. Bydalek
street=2803 Valleywood
city=Anchorage
state=Alaska
zip=99517
=Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

DK-99-25
ORIGINAL

From: Mary Riddick
To: "GOLDNBLAC@aol.com"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1
Date: Wed, Jul 14, 1999 3:58 PM
Subject: Re:

In%20Support%20of%20the%20MEC%20Letter%20on%20MM%20Docket%20No.%2099-25

Chairman Kennard, requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

>>> <GOLDNBLAC@aol.com> 07/13 10:08 PM >>>
please submit my name to the list thank you.
Carlotta G. Boatner

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ORIGINAL

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DK-99-25

From: Mary Riddick
To: "lynnedurham@yahoo.com"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1
Date: Wed, Jul 14, 1999 4:08 PM
Subject: Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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>>> Lynne Durham <lynnedurham@yahoo.com> 07/14 8:33 AM >>>

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
Commissioner Gloria Tristani,
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC

20554

cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President
Al Gore,
Bill Bradley, and George W. Bush
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25
Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses:
RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media

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outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to the entire population.

Awarding licenses for new low power FM radio stations would empower local communities with a new public forum to express its many voices, cultures, ideas, and needs. Low power radio stations would create much needed public fora for a variety of groups - including community activists, youth, ethnic and linguistic minorities, the religious community, local artists and cultural associations - and provide a forum for dialogue and debate about important local and public interest issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban neighborhoods, rural towns and other communities

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The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated
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21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of
unlicensed community
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broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of
property,
arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the
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In support with the efforts of the Microradio
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author
Lynne Richards Durham--Writer, Mom, Voter

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DEK-99-25

From: Mary Riddick
To: "ehood@gte.net"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1
Date: Wed, Jul 14, 1999 3:50 PM
Subject: Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

ORIGINAL

Chairman Kennard, requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

>>> Earl Hood <ehood@gte.net> 07/13 9:58 PM >>>
 =To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
 Commissioner Gloria Tristani,
 Commissioner Michael Powell
 Commissioner Susan Ness
 Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
 Federal Communications Commission
 The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554
 cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore,
 Bill Bradley, and George W Bush
 cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

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JUL 22 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MM Docket No. 99-25
 Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

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In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities. In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition (mec@tao.ca), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

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Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego
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Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
name=Earl Hood
street=1200 E. Hillsdale
city=Foster City
state=CA
zip=94404
=Send to FCC

ORIGINAL
EX PARTE OR LATE FILED *D* K-99-25

From: Mary Riddick
To: "mglaser@sonic.net"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1
Date: Wed, Jul 14, 1999 3:53 PM
Subject: Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

>>> Martha <mglaser@sonic.net> 07/14 2:36 AM >>>
 =To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
 Commissioner Gloria Tristani,
 Commissioner Michael Powell
 Commissioner Susan Ness
 Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
 Federal Communications Commission
 The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554
 cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore,
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Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
name=Martha Glaser
street=P.O. Box 1285
city=Forestville
state=CA
zip=95436
=Send to FCC